

# CONCORDIA'S THURSDAY REPORT

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January 16, 2003

## Rector presents action plan

*Report on Sept. 9 places blame squarely on the protesters*

At a meeting of Concordia's Board of Governors yesterday, Rector Frederick Lowy tabled an "action plan" for the coming months to ensure mutual respect, a safe learning environment and open debate.

The plan promises a clearer articulation as to what is acceptable in posters, publications and use of university space, and a monitoring system.

Several committees have been set up, including a committee to review the university's Code of Rights and Responsibilities, under Me Pierre Fréreau, and a planning and monitoring committee to oversee implementation of the guidelines, chaired by Garry Milton, from the Rector's office.

Further down the road are an academic lecture series on Middle East issues, organized by a committee chaired by Dean of Graduate Studies Elizabeth Saccá, and, possibly, a Concordia Centre for International and Cross-Cultural Dispute Resolution.

The university continues to press for firm action against individuals who have been identified as having committed violent acts or contravened the university's codes or provincial/municipal laws.

### Key appointments

Several key appointments were announced at the Board meeting. Charles Bertrand, who was Interim Rector in 1994 and 1995, replaces Donald Boisvert on a

temporary basis as Dean of Students, and takes on the position of Associate Vice-Rector, Student Life. Patricia Gabel, an expert in conflict resolution, has been hired as a special advisor to the Rector. *For more on these appointments, please see page 4.*

Also at yesterday's meeting, the Rector released a report on the events surrounding the cancellation of a scheduled speech by Israeli politician Benjamin Netanyahu on Sept. 9. It will be discussed at the next Board meeting in February.

The internal report, prepared by Director of Environmental Health and Safety Susan Magor, describes incomplete intelligence,

*Please see Rector, page 10*



**CONCORDIA STUDENTS PLAY HARD:** Forty-four Concordia engineering students travelled to Sherbrooke at the beginning of the month to participate in the 2003 Engineering Games. Pictured above is the team, dressed in Harry-Potter-inspired costumes for the talent show. They placed fourth out of 11 teams. Please see page 9 for the complete story. Concordia also organized and competed in the MBA Case Competition. The full story is on page 7.

## Global carbon cycle is piece of climate puzzle

*Chemist Yves Gélinas is recipient of \$213,779 CFI grant for climate research*

BY SYLVAIN COMEAU

Scientists attempting to forecast the impact of global warming face a daunting task: taking into account all relevant factors in a climate system of mind-boggling complexity. Experts all over the world are striving to provide key data needed for computer modelling of the phenomenon.

Yves Gélinas, a Concordia professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, is working on one piece of that giant puzzle. On January 6, he received a boost in his research efforts in the form of a \$213,779 Canadian Foundation for Innovation New Opportunities grant.

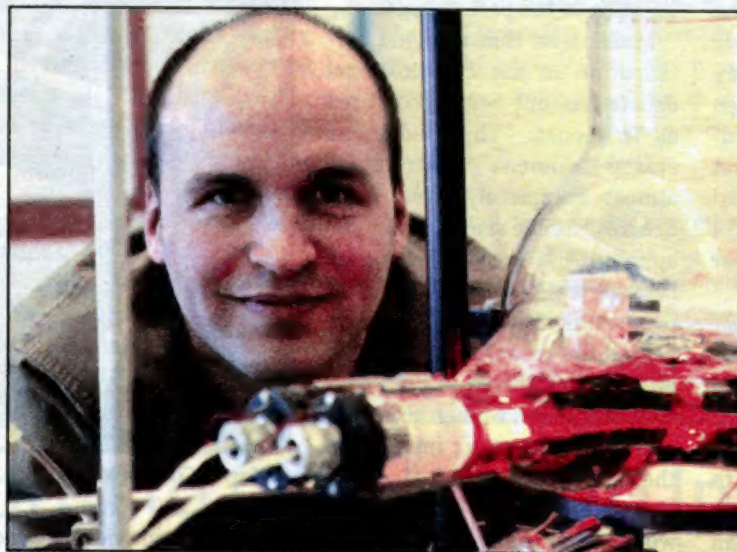
"I'm studying the global carbon cycle, in relation to increases in CO<sub>2</sub> [inorganic carbon, a greenhouse gas] concentration in the atmosphere and increases in temperature. My specialty is looking at the organic carbon cycle, which

means carbon from living organisms and from the dead remains of non-living organic matter.

"Specifically, I'm looking at preservation of organic matter in marine sediments, such as phytoplankton, because of its long-term influence on CO<sub>2</sub> removal from the atmosphere."

Many global warming researchers look at the processes which add excessive greenhouse gases to the atmosphere. Gélinas, in collaboration with researchers at McGill, UQAM and the University of Washington in Seattle, is trying to determine to what extent organic matter settled at the bottom of the ocean will remove some of the excess.

"There's always an exchange; there's CO<sub>2</sub> being added through anthropogenic [human] activities, and there's also a natural removal process. Before humans started using fossil fuels, there was an equilibrium; there was as much natural removal as natural addition to the atmosphere."



Chemistry professor Yves Gélinas

That delicate balance has been tipped in one dangerous direction, and now nature is struggling to adjust.

"The rate at which we are adding greenhouse gases now is much faster than the removal rate, so I'm studying these natural removal processes to see to what extent they will catch up. If we

can fully understand these processes, it will help build computer models to predict what will happen in the long term."

The question here is: how well, and quickly, can nature cope?

"We don't believe that nature can fully catch up. There probably

*Please see Gélinas, page 10*

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# Meaningful work is key to solving world poverty: Economist

BY MARK RIEGER

One of Concordia's longest-serving economics professors recently turned his attention to a subject that doesn't get much attention in his field. For the past few years, Jaleel Ahmad has been studying poverty and trying to find ways to alleviate it.

"Poverty is increasing, and I find this is a challenge to economists, to try to explain it and find ways of counteracting it," said Professor Ahmad, who has been at Concordia since 1970. He has done research on unemployment and child labour, and this led to his current focus.

He remarked that many of his peers are more comfortable with the mathematical side of their field, and do not typically spend much time thinking about the

social aspects of economic issues. "They understand poverty, but they don't feel inclined to do anything about it," he said.

Dr. Ahmad acknowledged that studying poverty is difficult because there are many differences between the poor in the industrialized world and those in developing countries.

"The poor in Sausalito [California] do not have the same degree of deprivation as the poor in Sierra Leone, but what they do have in common is that they have no source of income."

For Dr. Ahmad, most current efforts to alleviate poverty, either by encouraging the poor to fight for political power or by simply giving them money, are misguided and ineffective.

"The view is that people are poor because they're not empow-

ered. I think the lack of empowerment is the effect of poverty rather than the other way around," he said. He argued that making people richer would increase their political power, and criticized the current focus on increasing empowerment as approaching the problem of poverty from the wrong starting-point.

Dr. Ahmad was equally critical of the idea that the transfer of funds to the poor would end poverty.

"Transfer measures, fiscal measures, taxing the rich and giving to the poor — that might work on a short-term basis, but it's not a solution," he said. He noted that although Canada has had a state welfare system for many years, our social safety net has not eliminated poverty in this country.

"I'm not against safety nets, but the income you get from work has a different psychology. Welfare may serve [the purpose], but in the end, it is demeaning."

Indeed, Ahmad suggested that the only way to eliminate poverty is to provide meaningful work to the world's poor in labour-intensive, small-scale industries like services and the production of handicrafts. Unlike those who believe that protective trade barriers would aid such industries, Ahmad suggested that free trade would be more helpful.

"There's nothing wrong with international trade," he said. "International trade allows you to increase your income. Poor people would be richer if we bought their goods at a fair price."

Dr. Ahmad, who has been a visiting professor in countries

including Australia, China, Sweden, and most recently South Korea, said that a good first step toward fostering the kinds of small-scale industry he favours would be to make loans more readily available to poor people who wished to start their own businesses.

He noted that it is because loans are often hard to get in developing countries that more small enterprises have not been created, and said he hoped institutions like the World Bank would do more to develop small business loan programs.

In spite of the potential challenges in implementing his proposals, he clear about the goals of his work.

"There's no reason to tolerate poverty," he said. "We're so rich, it should be eliminated."

## Chantal Maillé's new book explores female factor in Quebec political life

*Women participate in politics in groups, but not in the decision-making process*

BY JULIE DEMERS

Chantal Maillé has been interested in the role of women in politics for as long as she can remember, at least 25 years. *Cherchez la femme, Trente ans de débats constitutionnels au Québec* is her eighth book, her sixth concerning women and politics. She's out to prove that politics need not be a man's game.

Her background is mainly in political science, and when she was attending Université de Montréal, there weren't many women politicians or even women's concerns on the curriculum. She remembers the first course offered on women and politics. "For the first time, I could learn about things that really interested me," she said.

This triggered curiosity on her part about women's attitudes to politics, and what they could bring to the table.

Ever since then, she has been watching women's evolution in that sphere like a hawk. "I haven't been looking at this only as an expert, but also as a woman," she said.

Her observations have led to books on women and politics. *Cherchez la femme* brings together three years of research and interviews on the last three decades of women's participation in the Canada-Quebec constitutional debate. She undertook the project on a grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities

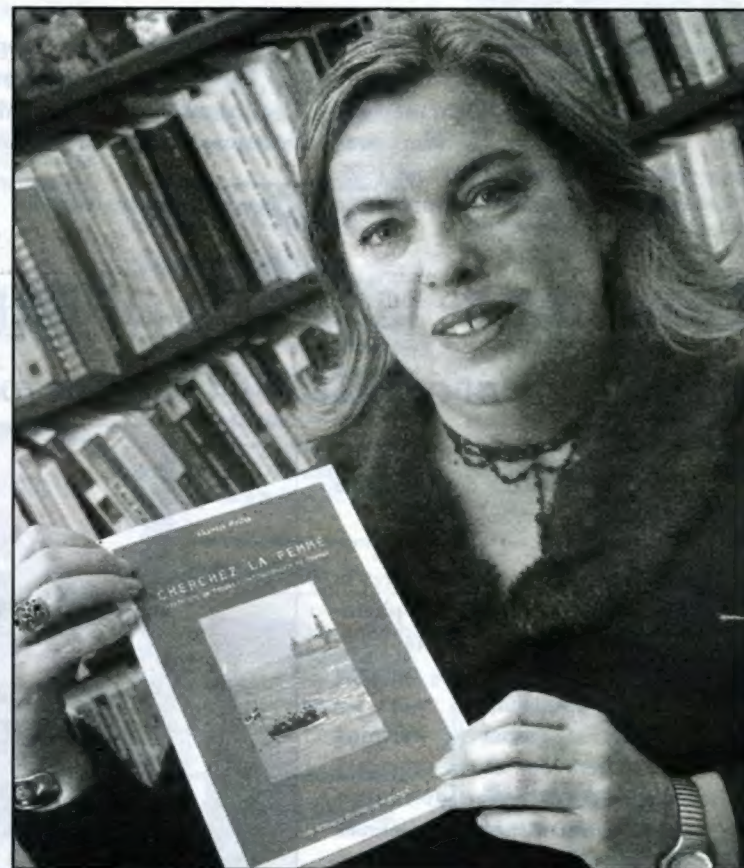
Research Council (SSHRC), one of many she has received.

She interviewed 30 women from all walks of life. "I wanted to find women who could act as witnesses of Quebec's cultural and social diversity," Maillé said. As vice-president of the Conseil du statut de la femme, she was well placed to use the network of contacts available. She also analyzed most of the documents written by women about the constitutional question in the past 30 years.

Maillé feels that women's participation in the constitutional debate has not been recognized as it should. "The media has erased women's contribution almost completely from most debates," Maillé said in some disappointment. She is actually glad, because it allowed her to find out that women were more active behind the scenes that she could ever have suspected.

In that sense, women aren't the only ones who aren't involved in the traditional political structures but are quite active in the wings; the younger generation doesn't identify much with the traditional political parties, either. "They often choose other ways to participate in politics," such as through interest groups, rather than going it alone as individuals.

However, Maillé doesn't think that this contribution is sufficient; she believes that women should be part of the decision-making process. She may be able



Professor Chantal Maillé

to advance this view as a member of the scientific committee for the Estates-General on Democratic Governance in Québec in the 21st Century that will be held at the end of February.

She is part of a team of experts who will advise Jean-Pierre Charbonneau, the minister in charge of the reform of democratic institutions.

One of the themes to be discussed by the Charbonneau

Commission is likely to be parity between women and men in Quebec's political structures.

While women's participation in Quebec politics has been increasing, Maillé would like to see still more women in decision-making roles to better reflect the needs of society. She feels the work of the commission could help to increase the number of elected women in the Quebec government.

### ■ Correction of Dec. 5 article

In an article that appeared in the last issue of the *Thursday Report* (Concordia set to double residence capacity by 2004," Dec. 5), it was incorrectly reported that the Departments of Journalism and Communication Studies would be relocating to the downtown Sir George Williams campus.

In fact, both departments, now housed at Loyola's Hingston Hall, will remain at Loyola in new quarters in what is now the Drummond Science Building. Renovations of the Drummond Building will begin shortly after its current occupants, namely the Departments of Exercise Science and parts of Psychology, move into the new Loyola Science Complex this summer.

It was also incorrectly reported that the Department of Mathematics and Statistics will move into Loyola's Vanier Library.

In fact, that department, now split between the Loyola and Sir George Williams Campuses, will be reunited entirely at Sir George Williams within the next couple of years.

We apologize for the errors and will keep the community informed on future developments in Concordia's building plans.



# Filmmaker Cross goes north

Film project aims to make Inuit teens' voice heard

BY JAMES MARTIN

Daniel Cross may have literally built his film career on the downtown streets of Montreal, but these days you're just as likely to find him above the 60th parallel, miles from any paved roads.

The part-time instructor at the Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema, and director of the documentaries *S.P.I.T.* (2001) and *The Street* (1996), is now working on a film with eight Inuit high-schoolers in the Kativik School Board of northern Quebec.

Cross says the National Film Board project, tentatively titled *Inuit Teens*, marks a return to the "community/social activist responsibility" which defined the NFB's "Challenge for Change" initiative in the late 1960s.

It's the project's philosophy which has lured Cross away from the metro stations and congested intersections of his first films, and into the isolated Canadian north.

"Documentary films not only engage me as a practitioner, but they inspire the activist side of me," he said in an interview.

Cross began interviewing homeless people around the Guy-Concordia metro in the second year of his BFA studies at Concordia, a project which turned into his master's thesis, and, eventually, *The Street*.

By his own admission, the decade-long project not only traced his filmmaking apprenticeship, but also his personal shift away from romantic ideas about homelessness as freedom "from the constraints of conventional life," and toward the serious issues of physical and substance



Daniel Cross teaching Inuit students in northern Quebec.

abuse.

"I was naive when I started that film," he admitted, "and by the end I wasn't." For his second film, *S.P.I.T.* (Squeegee Punks In Traffic), Cross worked closely with a Montreal street punk named Roach to help "advance my ideas by using Roach's enlightened firsthand experiences in an area I was entering with only general stereotype information."

Cross is approaching Inuit Teens with the same open mind. Following on the idea of the "Roach Cam" (which offered viewers a uncensored squeegee-kid's-eye view of the world), Cross and *S.P.I.T.* cinematographer Mila Aung-Thwin provided the eight Inuit teens with three video cameras in an effort to "engage them at the highest level: 'I'm not going to film you, you're going to film you.'"

"It's a real learning thing for me, how to engage with them in a way that they have a desire to be engaged, and not just my way.

"Being of a different culture, I realized they didn't have that 'investigative journalism'-type analysis in their way of looking at life. It's not apathy as much as it's a cultural style: they don't quiz each other, they don't look for scandals.

"By nature, they have nothing to say to the camera, and no interest in 'being a star.' It's a bit odd; anywhere else in the world, you can always find a cheese-man who's going to give you something good.

"It was hard to see what they were going to film, so I'd bring up discussions about suicide, or gambling, and try to find out what the issues are with them. I challenge them by saying, 'Come on, you guys are teenagers, and every teenager conflicts with society in some way!'"

Cross and Aung-Thwin are preparing to make their fourth northern visit at the end of the

Please see Cross, page 11

## McKay wins prestigious math prize

Congratulations to Professor John McKay, FRSC. The distinguished mathematician, who teaches in the Department of Computer Science and the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, is a joint winner of the CRM-Fields Prize for Mathematics for 2002-2003.

The prize, awarded annually by the Centre de Recherches Mathématiques in Montreal and the Fields Institute in Toronto, recognizes exceptional contributions by a mathematician working in Canada, and unusually this year, awarded a joint prize. The other recipient is Edwin Perkins, FRSC, of the University of British Columbia. Both will talk on their work at the institutes next fall.

Professor McKay's research revolves around the properties of finite groups, their representa-

tions and their symmetries. The citation by the CRM-Fields committee continues:

"He has been at the origin of several of the most startling discoveries in mathematics of our time, and is world-renowned for launching two areas of mathematics by his observations and conjectures, one known as the McKay correspondence, and the other going under the fanciful name of monstrous moonshine, underlying the role of the largest sporadic simple group which is known as the monster.

"His wide knowledge of mathematics has allowed him to bring to the fore questions which have been deeply influential in the subsequent development of the discipline, for example, the work of Richard Borcherds, which was recognized by a Fields medal at

the 1998 International Congress of Mathematicians.

"Professor McKay, amongst other achievements, is a pioneer in the use of computers as a tool in algebra, either in the study of sporadic groups (he is the co-discoverer of two such groups) or in the explicit computation of Galois groups. He was also [a contributor to] one of the feats of computational algebra of our time, the proof of the non-existence of a projective plane of order 10."

After obtaining his bachelor's degree in mathematics at Manchester, McKay obtained a doctorate in computer science in Edinburgh. He held appointments at the Atlas laboratory in England, at Caltech and at McGill University before moving to Concordia in 1974.

Concordia faculty, staff and alumni/a pop up in the media more often than you might think!

## names in the news

Students in Lisa Chalifoux's *The Education of the Disadvantaged Child* course had their generosity acknowledged in the December 7 issue of *The Gazette*. Class members, led by single mother and student Aviva Fuchs, raised \$451.54 for The Gazette Christmas Fund. Fuchs said that the \$50 each student saved by not having to buy a textbook for the course provided extra incentive to help families in need.

A study co-published by Carsten Wrosch (Psychology) was cited in an article called "The Power of Regret" in the *Los Angeles Times* of November 18. Wrosch and colleague Jutta Heckhausen of the University of California at Irvine found that younger people tend to blame themselves for the behaviour they regretted, while older adults alter their perception of regrets, shifting the blame away from themselves. They concluded, though, that the way we deal with our regrets has important effects on our emotional well-being.

David Tabakow, a counsellor at the Student Success Centre, was quoted in an article on the academic pressures facing new university students in several Canadian newspapers this fall, including Halifax's *Chronicle-Herald*. "Many students are not prepared for the drastic jump in expectations between high school and university," he said. He suggested that students speak to their professors personally and take advantage of study skills workshops offered by their university.

MFA Studio Arts student Catherine Sylvain (Sculpture, Ceramics & Fibres) had her work published on the cover of *Le Sabord*. The piece was analyzed in the art magazine by Hermenigilde Chiasson.

Michael Carney (Management) commented on Air Canada's proposed Elite business airline in a November article that was published in newspapers like the *Calgary Herald* and Ottawa's *Le Droit*. He is doubtful of the venture's feasibility, noting that businesspeople care more about efficiency than luxury. "As long as you get from A to B in a modicum of comfort and convenience, you don't really care about all those [travel luxuries]," he said.

Recent animation grads Shira Avni and Serene El-Haj Daoud were featured in a December 16 *Gazette* article about their animated short, *From Far Away*, which was released as part of a National Film Board collection for children called *Talespinners*. *From Far Away* deals with the hardships immigrant children face in adapting to Canada. The co-directors who are good friends, know this reality well: Avni was in born in Israel and El-Haj Daoud emigrated from Saudi Arabia as a child.

Viviane Namaste (Simone de Beauvoir Institute) made headlines when she gave a conference entitled "Cherchez la femme: l'histoire des artistes travesties et transsexuelles à Montréal, 1955-1985" last September. In an interview with *ICI*, she said that her goal was to document the first generation of Quebec transsexuals: "J'ai voulu documenter cette histoire pour ne pas qu'elle disparaisse en même temps que les personnes qui l'ont faite," she said. In her study, she attempted to draw similarities between the emergence of transsexuality in Quebec and the province's Quiet Revolution.

Daniel Salée (SCPA) has been making the local media rounds since the publication of his paper on the demise of the English elite and separatism in Quebec. "If English is a threat in Quebec today, it is a depersonalized one, brought about by a tidal wave of global culture, the new knowledge-based economy, communication technology and trade," Salée told *The Gazette* in a December 4 article. The political scientist also discussed sovereignty and language issues on the airwaves of CJAD and CBVE as well as CBC television in mid-December.

Paul Hastings (Psychology) provided expertise on the impact of video games on children's social development in *The Gazette* on December 9. "A lot of cognitive and social development comes from interactive social behaviour... Isolated activity [like playing video games] decreases the opportunities for learning these critical social skills," he said.

A profile of Stingers wrestling star and MBA student Tamara Medwisky appeared in *Canadian Business* on November 11. Medwisky was named Concordia Athlete of the Year in 2000, while managing her gruelling master's curriculum. She also made an appearance on *CFCF News* December 9 with coach Victor Zilberman. She is currently in training to make the 2004 Summer Olympics team.

Sandra Betton (Finance) shared her views on the vulnerabilities of companies with low stock prices on *CBC Newsworld Business News Early Edition TV* show on December 11.

Matthew Friedman (Journalism) was quoted in an article about computer books and their marketability on the Internet. The author of several technology books, Friedman told *Quill & Quire* that he values reader reviews on e-commerce sites like Amazon.ca because they tend to be written by people with "relevant professional background."

Recent Art Education graduate Andrea Gumpert organized an outing for her students at Sinclair Laird School to meet Keero Singh Birla, co-writer and producer of the IMAX film *India, Kingdom of the Tiger*. An article in *The Gazette* described how Gumpert viewed Birla as a role model for her students, who like him, are largely of Indian and Sri Lankan heritage.



# Bertrand appointed Associate V-R, Gabel Special Advisor

Charles Bertrand has been appointed Associate Vice-Rector Student Life and Interim Dean of Students, as of January 15.

He came to Concordia (then Sir George Williams University) in 1967. He officially retired from the History Department at Concordia last year, but has kept close contact with the university.

Charles has broad experienced as an academic administrator, having served as Interim Rector from 1994 to 1995, Vice-Rector Services from 1992-97 and Dean of Arts and Science from 1985 until 1992. He was appointed History Department chair in 1981

and again in 1984.

"I am pleased to again offer my experience to serve the university," he said.

"The role of the Dean of Students is an important one at Concordia, especially in the past several years when a level of tension between certain student groups has, at times, disturbed campus life.

"I intend to build a solid framework for amicable relations between groups on campus. I will build on the excellent work that Donald Boisvert has accomplished in terms of enriching campus life."

A career historian, Bertrand has published numerous works on Western European social history. He did his undergraduate work in at Western Washington College, his MA at the University of Oregon and PhD at the University of Wisconsin.

Best wishes in your new role, Chuck.

## Special advisor

Rector Frederick Lowy is pleased to announce that Patricia Gabel will be joining his office in a consulting role as Special Advisor to the Rector, Conflict Analysis and

Management. As well as advising on conflict analysis, she will also advise the chair of the Board of Governors on Board governance.

She has a background in international law, and more than 27 years of negotiation and conflict management experience. Most recently, she was the fellow in residence at Harvard University's Weatherhead Center for International Affairs.

She is a *cum laude* graduate of Vassar College, and also studied at the Albany Law School of Union University, where she was an editor of the law review. She taught legal writing at Albany

Law School and was an adjunct professor in the School of Business at the University of Vermont.

Dr. Lowy, making the appointment, said, "Patricia Gabel is superbly qualified by training and experience to help us more effectively pursue our mission and objectives.

One of Ms. Gabel's first priorities will be to meet with members of the university to learn more about their concerns and priorities."

Welcome to Concordia, Patricia, and best wishes in your new post.

## letters to the editor

### Call it occupation: Student

An article entitled "CSU MPs take to the street" (CTR, Nov. 21) had a factual error that I would like to see get corrected. It is not only ignorant but also misleading, and, as far as I am concerned, this is not something you would write unintentionally.

The error was that the writer, instead of saying, "the Israeli occupation of Palestine," which is what it is under Canadian law, international law, and the fourth Geneva Accord, said, "Israeli presence in Palestine" instead.

Mazin Ali, student, Civil Engineering

Editor: The phrase "Israeli presence" is factually correct. The reporter who wrote that story is not at all ignorant about the issue, but she was reporting on an occurrence at Concordia, not analyzing the Mideast crisis, and was trying to be as neutral as possible.

### Letters pour in supporting Hillel

On Dec. 2, the council of the Concordia Student Union (CSU), which controls the funding of student associations at the university, suspended its support of the Concordia branch of Hillel, the Jewish students association.

The CSU charged that Hillel was recruiting students for the Israel Defense Forces by allowing a flyer to be distributed from a table in the Hall Building mezzanine.

The CSU offered to reinstate Hillel, but only if the Jewish club (along with all CSU-affiliated

organizations) signed an agreement with conditions that Hillel found unacceptable. Instead, Hillel launched a lawsuit against the CSU and began a letter-writing campaign.

To date, the rector's office and CTR have received 1,618 letters, each of which is being answered. Here is a sampling:

Am I the only one who is embarrassed to have graduated from Concordia University? I am increasingly disgusted by the actions of the Concordia Student Union, who not only claim to represent the student body, but also receive a large financial sum that students are required to pay. . . Hillel has continuously abided by all rules, avoided mud-slinging and avoided resorting to violence. . . The CSU [has also] decided that Hillel was not worthy of co-sponsoring a conference on anti-Semitism.

Amanda Wener, Montreal

Who controls activities at Concordia University? Is it the university administration, or the student union, who represent the small minority of students who demonstrated momentary interest in the CSU election long enough to bring this shameful group into power?

I am outraged that the CSU continues to be permitted to call the shots.

Judith Leichter, part-time Concordia student

Silencing one's opponents is a tactic often used by fanatics and fundamentalists. It should not be a tactic used by students or those interested in the pursuit of intellectual matters. Worse yet, [it] sends a discouraging message to the rest of the campus: "You are too stupid to think for

yourself. We will think for you."

Martin Shuster, graduate student, Yale University

Despite what your views on Israeli politics may be, Hillel is a nationwide organization that tries to give Jewish students identity and unification. In a world that is so torn by racism and intolerance, please don't become part of the problem of discrimination.

Jonathan Jaffir, University of Toronto

What happened to freedom of speech? What year is it, anyway, 1939? Are we in Nazi Germany? Any group has a right to exist and a right to make their people aware of issues surrounding their religious and cultural belief.

Neil Feigelson, CLU, CHFC, Toronto

I graduated from Concordia 15 years ago. I'm appalled at what is coming out of Concordia today and would certainly choose to hire graduates from other universities before considering a Concordia graduate. . . . From preventing Netanyahu from speaking to stopping funding to Hillel, you are responsible for tarnishing Concordia's reputation. Shame on the administration for fomenting the kind of atmosphere rampant at Concordia today.

Ariel Perez, Toronto

A university must be a place where opposing opinions can be discussed openly and intellectual discourse can take place in an atmosphere of mutual respect. The truest test of freedom of

expression is to allow that which you find objectionable to be heard.

Marla S. Goodwin, CA, Montreal

The underlying current at Concordia is reminiscent of pre-war Germany. This is how it starts. You were given a sacred trust by your fellow students. Do not allow hatred and fear to replace the true ideals that guide higher learning: curiosity and integrity.

Dr. D.N. Adam, University of British Columbia

The willingness to let hateful protestors run roughshod over the Netanyahu lecture was shameful, and the banning of Hillel is another example of how you single out one population for censure while their opposition remains free to propagandize.

Rob O. La Raus

The time has come to pull the plug on Concordia University. With all due respect to Rector Frederick Lowy, nobody is able to rein in the fanatic and clearly anti-Semitic student union.

Daniel Weinberger, Montreal

I would think that after the [pro-]Palestinian mob terrorized an Israeli event, the school (and student representatives) would do everything it could to ensure that the Jewish voice would not be further muzzled.

Shame on everyone who allowed this to happen. Shame on everyone for doing nothing to stop it.

Michel Neray

We welcome your letters, opinions and comments at BC-121, 1463 Bishop St., by fax (848-2814), or by e-mail (barblak@alcor.concordia.ca) by 9 a.m. on the Friday prior to publication.

## Honorary Doctorate nominations sought

Honorary degree nominations are being sought for the 2003-2004 academic year convocation ceremonies.

All members of the Concordia University community (faculty, students, staff and alumni) are invited to submit nominations. Please note that current members of the faculty, the administration, or the Board of Governors are not eligible to receive honorary degrees. Every nomination must include a detailed curriculum vita and a succinct statement explaining (a) why the candidate is worthy of the honour, and (b) what makes the candidate an appropriate Concordia honorand.

To request a nomination form or a copy of the criteria used in selecting honorands, please contact Heather Adams-Robinette, Secretary to the Graduation Ceremonies Committee, at heather.adams-robinett@concordia.ca or 848-4853. Completed nominations may be sent to the above at the University Secretariat, S-BC 319-1. The deadline to receive nominations for convocation ceremonies to be held in the upcoming academic year is March 28, 2003.

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 **Concordia**  
UNIVERSITY



## Graduate students presented with prizes at hotel breakfast



The School of Graduate Studies honoured their best and brightest at the Graduate Awards Breakfast on December 10 at Montreal's Delta Hotel. Thirteen new graduate awards were inducted this year and presented to the recipients.

One of the new awards was the Mildred and Margot Lande Graduate Scholarship in Photography, Concordia's first graduate award specifically for a photography student (photography students are eligible for other Fine Arts awards). The annual scholarship is a result of an endowed gift of \$50,000 to Concordia's Campaign for a New Millennium by Mildred Lande, to honour her late husband, Bernard, a lover of photography, and her daughter, Margot, a Loyola communication studies graduate, amateur photographer and owner of a photography lab in Montreal.

Pictured above are, left to right, Margot Lande; D.G. Mariève Robitaille, the recipient of this year's scholarship, worth \$2,244; Mildred Lande; and Kathleen Perry, Fine Arts Associate Dean, Academic Relations.

## Future Search is on for Recreation and Athletics

BY LAURIE ZACK

What happens when you put 70 people from various sectors of the university and guests from the neighbouring community into a room for three days? An explosion – of ideas.

A three-day Future Search Conference was held off-campus from Dec. 16 - 18. It was the first experience at Concordia with a process that has been used widely.

The goal in this case was to develop "a shared vision and understanding of the value and rightful place of Recreation and Athletics in the life of Concordia University and its role in the wider community, and a commitment to foster relationships that will contribute, implement and sustain this shared vision."

It was also tied to the search for a new director for the department and planning for much-needed recreation and athletics facilities on both campuses.

Participants included alumni, faculty, outside support, staff, students, athletes and recreation and athletics staff. Vice-Rector Services Michael Di Grappa was an active participant.

Conference management team member David Gobby said, "The idea was to get them to interact and learn from each other and to develop a common vision of where Recreation and Athletics should be going. I think we accomplished that, and also had a lot of fun doing so."

Over the three days, participants worked in groups, in pairs, as a large group and individually, under the leadership of conference facilitators Ray Gordezky and Kim Martens.

The group work began by looking back, looking at the present and predicting trends around the world, in Montreal and specifically at the Concordia, in terms of recreation and sport. Groups disbanded and re-formed, sometimes according to their role at the university and sometimes by mere chance. The goal was to get everyone involved and thinking.

Among the highlights were skits developed by eight work

groups to present their vision of the future. These ranged from interviews with excited Concordia spectators at the 2012 Vanier Cup game held at Concordia's new retractable-roof stadium to a tour of the new "Di Grappa Dome Complex," with varsity and alumni dormitories and and wellness centres.

Faculty members agreed that existing units like exercise science, psychology, education and marketing could share their expertise in many ways. New programs to help athletes in academic difficulty, performance coaching, student apprenticeships and physical therapy were some of the concepts developed in these sessions.

Similar initiatives in fundraising, marketing, communications and alumni support were raised. Representatives from neighbouring community groups and the YMCA suggested providing services and programs for neighbouring families, children and the elderly.

There was strong commitment to the dual mandate of the department: providing services to both the mass of students, faculty and staff and the varsity and elite athletes.

There was general agreement that facilities on both campuses should complement each other to meet the full spectrum of the University's recreation and athletic needs. Flexibility, accessibility, affordability, and energy efficiency were all mentioned, as well as the need for facilities that are client-driven – in particular, student-driven.

Several work groups were formed at the end of the conference. They will meet this month to develop specific projects such as academic liaison, fundraising, marketing and communications and leadership, and will coordinate with the Vice-Rector Services.

More information about the Future Search conference and a day-by-day chronicle is available on the Web at: <http://web2.concordia.ca/futuresearch>.

## Don Boisvert returns to teaching, after several administrative roles

Don Boisvert has decided to return to teaching full-time next September, and will take an administrative leave from his position as Dean of Students until then. He takes with him the gratitude of many at the university for conducting an often difficult job with grace and humour.

A former co-president of the Loyola Students' Association, Boisvert helped build a dynamic, welcoming and comprehensive student services program. He strove to encourage a vibrant student life at Concordia and mediate tensions when they arose between student groups or with

the university administration.

Vice-Rector Services Michael Di Grappa said that Boisvert had built the Dean of Students office into a real asset, serving a panoply of needs. "He is a committed and principled person, and he showed that he cared about student concerns and he cared about Concordia. We will miss him greatly, but he leaves a lasting legacy."

Don has taught in the Departments of Political Science, Religion, Leisure Studies and the Interdisciplinary Program in Sexuality. He will return to teaching in the Religion Department.

Donald Boisvert was named Associate Vice-Rector, Services (Student Life) in 1991 and Dean of Students in 1996. Before that, he was Acting Director, Health Services (1995-96), Acting Director, Guidance Services (1990-91), Executive Assistant to the Rector (1985-90) and Administrative Assistant to the Vice-Rector, Academic (1980-85).

Recently, he endowed the Donald L. Boisvert Scholarship for Gay and Lesbian Studies, and was present for the induction of the award at the Graduate Awards ceremony in December.

-B.B.

## JMSB Briefs: MBAs on TV, UFE results higher than average

Watch for Concordia MBA students on PBS television this Saturday evening at 7 p.m.

The *Economist Business Challenge* is a show that pits senior business students against one another as they tackle tough questions about economics and geopolitics prepared with the help of *The Economist* magazine.

The competition is moderated

by David Johnston, former principal of McGill University, and participating universities in this year's edition of the program include American schools Harvard, Yale as well as Queen's, McGill, and the Université de Montréal, among others.

The winning team on each program receives \$3,000, the runner-up team \$1,000, and there's a spe-

cial \$1,000 prize for the outstanding individual player.

### UFE students excel again

Results in the 2002 Uniform Final Examinations (UFE) of the Order of Charter of Accounts of Quebec show that Concordia's first-time success rate of 76.8 per cent surpasses the Quebec first-time success rate of 75.8 per cent

and the national first-time success rate of 71.7 per cent.

Concordia's Jason Manel ranked sixth in Quebec and 18th in Canada in this crucial exam, which is essential for the chartered accountant (CA) designation, and Marie-Pierre Gadoury ranked eighth in Quebec. Congratulations go out to both students.

### Undergraduate competitions

The Undergraduate Business Games and the Commerce Games will take place Jan. 17-19 in Ottawa and Hull, respectively. The Undergraduate National Case Competition will be organized and hosted by Concordia Feb. 6-8. Keep reading the *CTR* for coverage of these events in future issues.



# Concrete toboggan draws on engineers' ingenuity

Students pass the boot this week to get to Great Northern Concrete Toboggan Race in Edmonton

BY SHANNON SMITH HOULE

How do you fit seven Concordia engineering students in a boot? With a lot of hard work and a very big boot.

Ahila Pathmanathan is one of seven civil engineering students who are building a giant boot-shaped toboggan for this year's Great Northern Concrete Toboggan Race. "I heard about it from the CSCE, the Canadian Society of Civil Engineering," she explained.

Pathmanathan recruited six of her Concordia classmates to form a team in the competition. They are Laureano Beccerra, Raymond Chu, Marie Dugue, Daniel Kasis, Sharon Nelson and Alexandru Tatar. It's the first time Concordia has competed in the event in four years.

The race is an annual event. Teams of students from around the world build a toboggan using concrete and other materials. They have to race the toboggan with five engineering students

inside and can win prizes for speed, performance and design. It's a fun way to put their civil engineering skills to work.

"It's an interesting idea, and we learn a lot doing this," said Laureano Beccerra.

The Concordia team has been working on their toboggan since December. Each student has put in hundreds of hours over the holidays, working up to eight hours each day over the past four weeks.

"We finished mid-terms, and then we started," said Daniel Kasis.

If they win, they plan to donate any prize money to the Concordia fundraising walkathon, the Shuffle. The Shuffle raises thousands of dollars each year for student scholarships.

In honour of their Shuffle pledge, the students decided to build their toboggan in the shape of a giant boot. The frame is made from steel, donated by Acier Ouellette.

The base will be made of concrete, and the students are keep-

ing the outer materials a secret for now.

"Every day we come in and there is a new metamorphosis," Pathmanathan said.

However, the team may never get to Edmonton, where this year's race will be held.

They still don't have the money to get there, and the four-day long competition begins on Jan. 29.

"Really, what we need are tick-

ets for six people to go, and lodgings for five nights, and the transportation of the boot, which has to be crated and sent," Sharon Nelson explained.

The boot has to be shipped by January 20 to make it to Edmonton on time for the com-



It's too early to take it for a spin, but sitting in the unfinished concrete toboggan are, starting at the left: Daniel Kasis, Sharon Nelson, Laureano Becerra, Marie Dugue, Alexandru Tatar and Ahila Pathmanathan. Not available for the photo was team member Raymond Chu.

petition.

This week the boot will make its first public appearance on the mezzanine of the Hall Building. The engineering students hope that when they see the giant boot, university groups and private businesses will donate the \$5,000

they need in order to participate in the competition.

"We'll be in the mezzanine this week to show what we're doing," Pathmanathan said, adding, "It's like panhandling indoors." Panhandling with a giant boot instead of a hat.

## Co-op students accrue experience before earning diploma

BY JULIE PARKINS

When Petra Alves graduates from the John Molson School of Business with a degree in marketing, she will have a major leg up on her classmates. She already has industry-related work experi-

ence, gained through her experience with the Institute for Co-operative Education (ICE).

"With each work term, you have a chance to actually apply your theoretical knowledge, which is so motivating. When you've done co-op, you're much

more realistic when you leave school - you already know what the real world is like," Alves said. She worked in everything from group insurance to event planning in her last work term with a small life insurance company in Montreal.

Now she is completing her second work term at Concordia, helping ICE communications coordinator Sharon Bishin profile other co-op students for future marketing projects.

Including Alves, Concordia employed 17 co-op students last semester in a variety of fields, from chemistry and electrical engineering to studio arts. It's a smart use of resources, says Bishin.

"These are strong, motivated students and they are great for filling specific staffing and work project needs. They learn from me, and in the process of teaching them, my skills are sharpened. On top of that, we like to encourage our own; we don't like them all to go to the outside."

Concordia's Co-op Institute was founded more than 20 years ago, and has admitted more than 1,000 students in the past three years alone. The program is offered in 21 disciplines, and many participants are bilingual, if not multilingual.

"The co-op program gives us a good idea of an employee's worth," said John Szabo, an economist with the Manufacturing Industries Branch of Industry Canada. "When you work with someone full-time, you have a chance to understand their work habits, as opposed to relying on a résumé for information."

Students are also convinced of the value of the program. "I joined Co-op because in such a competi-

tive profession as business, experience is the most valuable thing you can have," said marketing student Kimberley Kwo, who completed her last work term with the Aldo Group, working for a former Co-op student, Nancy Beaudoin.

"Success in business cannot be attained by memorizing textbooks," Kwo said.

"Everything is so fast-paced and the market changes every day. I knew that if I were to graduate with 16 months of experience in marketing in at least two different companies, I would have a definite advantage over my peers and have first pick of the best jobs."

When human resources management student Niki Soilis graduates this December, she's going on vacation.

She's able to relax, because she knows she already has good experience behind her and she's been earning money all the way through school.

Soilis said, "I know I will get to where I want, because I know that I will already be starting in the work force at a higher level than I would have otherwise."

For more information on Concordia University's Institute for Co-operative Education call 848-3950, send an e-mail to [sharon.bishin@concordia.ca](mailto:sharon.bishin@concordia.ca), fax: 848-2811, consult the Web site at <http://www.co-op.concordia.ca>, or drop by 1425 René-Lévesque Blvd. West, Suite 210.

## Elegant art already flying off the walls



In the conference room of the Office of Research Services, a series of three paintings by Nicolas Grenier, a current Fine Arts student. Their titles are *Reflexion*, *Jeune femme à la lumière sud-ouest*, and *Le cas d'un vignoble*, all 2002, acrylic and oil.

Concordia's offices could become the city's biggest art gallery if employees respond to Laurel Smith's invitation to display work by our own artists.

Smith, the Student Life Assistant in the Faculty of Fine Arts, was asked by the Office of Research Services for some artwork by Concordians to display on the 10th floor of the Guy Métro Building. She not only acquired beautiful pieces for the ORS office, she turned the idea into something much bigger.

Smith sent out a call for contributions to students, faculty

and alumni in Fine Arts, and got an excellent response, particularly from alumni. She has identified about 18 works of art for the ORS offices, and most of them are now in place. Each work is accompanied by its title, the name of the artist, some biographical information, and the artist's own asking price.

Smith says that for some of the artists, it's their first opportunity to put a dollar value on their work. "I advise them to take their time and their materials into consideration, and to think of what the work is worth

to them."

For the "gallery owners," it may be their first crack at choosing a piece of art. People tend to think of the art as decoration for boring office walls, Smith conceded, but they soon learn to look critically at the works, and discriminate among them. "It's a great education to think of your office as an art gallery," she said.

Anja Nopper, Assistant to the Director of the ORS, agrees. "We have people from all over the world coming into our office. We've had many favourable remarks from visitors, and we've already had offers to buy. Concordia has a strong and vibrant visual arts component, and we're delighted to give it a presence."

If you would like to acquire artwork for your department, please contact Laurel Smith at [laurels@alcor.concordia.ca](mailto:laurels@alcor.concordia.ca) or 848-4701.



# Fine Arts faculty helps a member of their family

Laurel Smith, Student Life Assistant in the Faculty of Fine Arts, wrote CTR to describe a heartwarming effort in the holiday spirit.

Having approached the Chaplaincy office to find a student in need over the holidays, she was told of a single student mother of three who was faced with a dental emergency for one of her children that was going to make a big dent in the family finances.

Fine Arts staff, faculty and students rose to occasion by raising \$280 in cash, \$400 in groceries, and a flood of gifts for each family member — art supplies, dolls, puzzles, books, CDs, scarves,

hats, mitts, socks, jewelry, jewelry box, photo albums, bath soaps, stuffed animals, family games, candy, a table centrepiece, wine, and even babysitting services. They also collected donations of clothing.

The student mother responded, "Please tell everyone involved that we send our greatest heartfelt gratitude out to you because without you Christmas would have been very bleak for us this year."

"A lot of thoughtfulness went into each contribution," Smith reported. "This initiative was so successful that we will be inviting other faculties to participate with us next year."

# Filling empty bowls for Dans la Rue



Students, faculty and technicians in the ceramics unit of the Department of Studio Arts pitched in to raise money for street kids just before the holiday break.

Handmade ceramic bowls were on sale on the mezzanine of the Hall Building at lunchtime.

For \$12, customers could buy a one-of-a-kind bowl, plus another bowl of hot soup to eat on the spot. Empty Bowls, as the project was called, raised about \$1,600 for Dans la Rue.

# MBA Case Competition trains leaders in management and teamwork skills

BY MELANIE TAKEFMAN

"Let's get to work!" Volodymyr Maksymiw-Duszara said with authoritative gusto. The four members of Concordia's MBA Case Competition team proceeded to outline how the world's largest pharmaceutical company would resolve their current management quandary.

The team was competing in the live case, the fourth in a five-stage round-robin competition that brought together top management students from 30 business schools around the world. Teams are presented with a corporate management problem, which they must analyze. They subsequently present a solution to a team of judges, all members of Montreal's business community.

In its 22nd year hosted by Concordia, the competition epitomizes the university's motto, "Real Education for the Real World."

What sets the live case apart, for example, is that unlike the other cases used in the competition, which are theoretical, it is a real situation, outlined on the spot by the company's executives. They look forward to tapping into the wealth of fresh ideas circulating among management students.

The competition requires months of planning. However, once the main event arrives, participants, coaches, organizers, volunteers and judges enjoy a whirlwind week of intense competition and networking as well as social activities and outings, including a city tour of Montreal and, this year, a comedy night.

Competition to participate is

fierce. Concordia coach Timothy Field, a JMSB management professor, chose members of his team from among his MBA students in his Strategies in Action: Case Competition course. The class completed 11 case simulations during the semester. The Concordia team then simulated 10 cases in the weeks leading up to the competition.

Team member Dan Silverman was attracted to the competition for the "challenge of doing a thorough analysis [of a case] in three hours." He explained that all of his teammates are practiced at preparing elaborate preparations over weeks. The time limit and intense atmosphere of the Case Competition added a new dimension.

Silverman said that because the Case Competition is known to bring together "the crème de la crème of the MBA program," it would be a welcome addition to his résumé.

However, in countries like Germany, where business education is very theoretical, practical experience is a rare but increasingly attractive asset in today's global market.

Mirella Orlovic, a student at the Heinrich-Heine University of Düsseldorf, said that the Case Competition gave her a taste of "the mean guys in the real business world."

She added that participation in the Case Competition was a way for her small faculty to distinguish itself in a huge university. "We wanted to show that we have international experience and that we are open-minded." She hopes that as case competitions become more common in Europe,



Concordia's MBA Case Competition team (from left to right): Timothy Field (coach), Donna Morris (alternate), Dan Silverman, Anna Giampa, Volodymyr Maksymiw-Duszara, Mohammad Ramzan, Noor Shawwa (assistant coach). The team was ranked eleventh out of 30 teams from Canada, the U.S., Germany, Sweden, Finland and New Zealand.

employers will understand the value they impart to participants.

Université Laval took first place in the competition, while York University and the University of Vermont came in second and third, respectively. The award for spirit, which is chosen by the participants, went to the Helsinki School of Economics for their enthusiasm and sportsmanship. Concordia's team placed eleventh, missing the semi-finals by only one point. On January 13-15, Concordia's team competed in a similar case competition at McMaster University.

Mark Burger, one of the Case Competition's organizers, said that the experience allowed him to "meet and interact not only

with people from all over the world, but from different spectrums"—judges, students and coaches.

"We've shared an experience that have built friendships that will last a lifetime," he said. "I'm sure of it."

Burger and his three co-organizers will receive academic credit for the equivalent of two courses for their work. Now that the competition is over, they will write a report, which will serve as a blueprint for next year's organizers.

"They'll have big shoes to fill!" Burger said.

The Undergraduate National Case Competition will take place at Concordia Feb. 6-8.

# Surf's Up

It's decision time once again. In that spirit, Concordia will hold an information day for prospective students on Saturday, Feb. 1, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the atrium of the J.W. McConnell Building.

The event will be publicized throughout the provinces of Quebec and Ontario as: Surf @ Concordia, a play on surfing the Web and fantasizing about the beach during a typical Montreal winter.

Surf @ Concordia will be a smaller-scale event than the open houses we have hosted in the past, concentrated in the atrium.

Each faculty will be represented, as well as Student Services, IITS and the Office of the Registrar. Tours of the Sir George Williams Campus and the library will run throughout the day.

Surf @ Concordia will publicize the fact that students can not only apply online but also take care of virtually all their administrative tasks via the My Concordia Portal.

This is a great chance to show off our many programs and services.

If you are interested in participating on behalf of your unit, please contact one of the following university staff members:

Rose Fedorak, Arts/Science  
Stephanie Basire, ENCS  
Amanda French, Fine Arts  
Lorena Marzitelli, SGS  
Murielle Salari, JMSB  
Marlene Gross, Student Services



# Towards a sustainable Concordia: Student proposals

BY SHIRA KATZ

Students are getting involved in an audit of Concordia's sustainability — for academic credit, thanks to the enthusiasm of some faculty members.

Two students, Geneva Guérin and Melissa Garcia Lamarca, have been leading an inventory of the university's environmental, economic and social practices. They set up an advisory committee of faculty, staff and students to get support.

Political science professor Peter Stoett, said, "They not only put together this extraordinary project, they also found funding for it, and showed great initiative there." The project, called Sustainable Concordia, has received funding from three faculties, and from the Youth Environmental Network.

Funding issues are discussed at monthly meetings, where students share their audit research with the organizers. These include approximately 100 students involved in the project for course credit, as well as volunteers who joined the working group through QPIRG (the Quebec Public Interest Research Group).

For example, Brian Slack's geography students are conducting a transportation survey this semester for credit. Andreas Athienitis's engineering students looked at the lighting planned for the new complex. Students enrolled in Stoett's Globalization

and Sustainable Development course last term were given an opportunity to participate in the audit in lieu of a term paper.

"I like to see students get practical experience at the undergraduate level," Stoett said. "They learned how difficult it can be to conduct investigative research. The response was positive, and some students fell in love with the project."

Chantal Beaudoin, an international business student in Stoett's class, conducted research on alternative "green" recycled or energy-efficient materials.

"I looked at the list of materials that will be used for the new Engineering, Computer Science and Visual Arts Integrated Complex, and then tried to find green substitutes and Quebec and Canadian companies to supply them at a competitive price," she said.

She was successful in her recommendation to FSA, the architectural firm, of a carpet company called Interface. Beaudoin also discovered alternative green materials in steel, wood, concrete, and paint, but said it was too late for Concordia to use these alternatives.

"My conclusion is that it's better to establish green criteria before a firm is selected. This audit could make an impact on other universities who should think about green guidelines before instead of afterwards," she said.

Geneviève Rivard, an international business student with a minor in geography, human environment, says she loved Stoett's class. "We talked about real problems in the world and finding solutions to these problems."

Rivard conducted research on solid waste management, and visited two companies. One was BFI, where Concordia sends their solid waste. The other was Complexe St-Michel, where Concordia sends wood, like broken chairs.

"I learned about society's problem of over-consumption," she said. "We have techniques to manage the garbage, but there is still too much produced. Education is the only way, and it is important to teach people when they are young."

Tanya Aberman, a political science student in Stoett's class, investigated the history of accessibility at the university. She looked at where students are from, and their financial situation.

"I found out that 40 per cent of students attend part-time, and I learned that Sir George Williams [the downtown university that was a parent of Concordia] has a history of giving opportunities to students who might not have had a chance to attend," she said. "I learned a lot about Concordia and I spoke with people I might not have come into contact with otherwise."

Valerie Sabbagh, a student in environmental geography, took

an interest in volunteering when her classmate saw a flyer about the project.

"My biggest interest is water quality and usage, and I think it's important to know where Concordia fits within the Montreal Island watershed," she said. Sabbagh met with Sonia Ruiz, a technical officer in the Biology Department, who gave her a tour.

"I learned that contaminated substances are taken from the Biology Department to the Environmental Health and Safety Department at Concordia," she said. "I also learned about many positive changes to Concordia's heating and cooling system that were made by reducing the volume of chemicals used and the cost."

Stephanie Watt, a fourth-year geography student, took an interest at the shuttle bus and the potential of using alternative fuels.

When she looked at the characteristics of fuels, emissions and energy consumption, Watt learned that the five shuttle buses at Concordia could follow the lead of some of the STCUM, which has switched some city buses from diesel, a petroleum-based product, to biodiesel. Biodiesel is more renewable, because it uses recycled greases such as vegetable oil. "They could start by blending, say, 5 per cent biodiesel with diesel."

"I would like to see at least one

shuttle bus run on biodiesel. This would get people in different departments like geography and chemistry to discuss the idea of reusing cooking oils," she said.

Audit organizers Guérin and Lamarca will include a compilation of students' research and recommendations, best practices, and an executive summary, all of which will be available on the Internet by March. Students in Études françaises plan to translate the documents. Students in Communication Studies are working on a Web site (<http://ballista.netfirms.com>), and students in Fine Arts are submitting art work.

Guérin and Lamarca have had meetings with more than 200 faculty, staff and administrators to discuss Concordia's future. Their goal is to sustain the project by having Sustainable Concordia become a permanent organization on campus, and Stoett thinks there's a need for a continued audit. "The broader community should see Concordia as an innovator in this area, not just responding to market developments."

Guérin said that although Concordia is the first university in Quebec to conduct this type of audit, a network of campus sustainability assessments includes UBC, Waterloo, UVic and Mount Allison.

For more information, write to [audit@sustainabilitysolutions.ca](mailto:audit@sustainabilitysolutions.ca) or [sustainability@mail.com](mailto:sustainability@mail.com).

## Fine Arts students design tactile map of the Hall Building

BY HYPATIA FRANCIS

Most of us think of design as Maesthetic, not practical, such as high-end fashion or architecture, but as Fine Arts student Jeannine Carter will tell you, design can have a real effect on daily life.

Carter and fellow students Jocelyne Bédard, Pascale Vonier, Stephanie Miller and Wetzeny Torres are working on a design project which they hope will make a real difference for Concordia's visually impaired students. They have designed a set of tactile maps of the Hall Building and plan to present their project to Concordia's administration.

The project began as a class assignment in Collaborative Design Art 390, taught by Howard Davies. According to Davies, designers and architects are too often seen as aestheticians. "One of the objectives of this course is to put design students in touch with real situations."

Each year, Davies puts forward a different design challenge to his students, having them work with a local non-profit group. Last

year, they worked with the Fauna Foundation, which provides a home to former research lab chimpanzees, and students designed a chimpanzee play area.

This year, they worked with the Montreal Association for the Blind (MAB). Carter and her group say they learned a lot by working on the project. "We realized that the way we think isn't the way blind people think."

As an example of this, Carter points to the original project her group had in mind, a map of the underground city. When her group proposed their plan to the MAB, they were told that such a map would not be practical, as most blind people don't go into the underground city unaccompanied.

When the group decided to design a set of tactile maps of the Hall Building, they grew aware of how much work would be involved in such a project. They worked with the architectural plans of the building and had to do a complete walk-through of each floor. The result is a set of maps that reflect the permanent structure of the Hall Building and



Left to right, students Wetzeny Torres and Jeannine Carter, Eleanor Diamond (Montreal Association for the Blind), students Pascale Vonier and Jocelyne Bédard, and John Hall, also from the MAB.

can still be customized.

The maps are designed as teaching tools, to be used in conjunction with a sighted guide who will walk a visually-impaired student through the building. The student would follow the guide and take note of her route on the map. The maps are printed in black and white on swell paper, on which the ink creates a raised impression. They include a simple legend, using both braille and

raised lettering.

In coming up with the design, the group spent a great deal of time researching the subject of tactile maps and how they are used. They also had to learn to think of design in a new way. "Learning to think with our hands and not with our eyes was a big challenge," Bédard said.

Teammate Vonier said another challenge was to keep the design simple and clear. "People are lim-

ited in what they can feel. It can't be too elaborate."

Although the class project has been handed in, the team plans to continue their work. Having designed maps for the ground floor and the mezzanine of the Hall Building, the group plans to design maps for the remaining floors. They hope that tactile maps will be made available to Concordia's visually impaired students.



# Engineers let loose at Jeux de Génie

## Competition is tough, but participants just want to have fun

BY MELANIE TAKEFMAN

"We are, we are, we are, we are,  
we are the engineers.  
We can, we can, we can, we can,  
demolish 40 beers."

With these words, Concordia's Engineering Games (Jeux de Génie) contingent returned from Sherbrooke victorious with a fourth-place finish overall, including second place in machine and the computer academic categories — and sore throats.

The annual five-day event is a whirlwind of academic tests, physical competitions, cheering and socializing with engineering students from all over Quebec. While Concordia's team has been hard at work since September, Engineering Games president Hakan Kilic affirmed that it's all about having a good time.

"Everyone was so friendly, and tried to involve everyone else," Kilic said.

Over the years, Concordia has earned the reputation for best team spirit. Similarly, their talent show presentation, a Harry-Potter-themed dance and skit combination with the Concordia team ultimately vanquishing evil (their opponents) in a final showdown complete with brooms and cloaks, was a huge crowd-pleaser.

Aside from the talent show, teams from 11 universities competed in academic tests in five engineering categories: i.e. com-



Engineering Games president Hakan Kilic (above) shows off the two second-place awards Concordia won at this year's event. The two plaques are for the machine competition and the academic test, computers category. Awards were presented at a formal banquet following the competition.

puter, mechanical, electrical, civil and chemical. They also took part in offbeat sports competitions like three-legged soccer and volleyball in a racketball court.

The machine category is the "most technical and most difficult," according to Kilic, and the 15-person team worked for months in preparation. Students must construct a machine that will pass through a course and accomplish various tasks.

Since the Engineering Games is always such a positive experience, the eight executive committee members had to choose 44 participants from among 150

qualified applicants this year. Those with the most enthusiasm and technical savvy made the cut.

The executive committee is also in charge of fundraising. They hosted several events in the fall, including a Halloween party, and acquired corporate sponsorships from Bombardier and Intel, among others.

Kilic said that many people who meet at the Engineering Games will likely work together in the future.

"You never know where they'll end up," he said. "In Quebec, with the Order of Engineers, it's like a big family."

# Quirky film about cutlery puts student on the festival map

## Animated short in International Women in Film Festival

BY CLARE BYRNE

Single white female with voracious appetite for forks seeks tall dark stranger for a meaningful relationship. Attraction to metal an asset.

The subject matter of *Fork Keeps*, a short animated movie written, directed and produced by Concordia film student Anne-Emanuelle Romanelli, is original, to say the least, and it captivated audiences at film festivals across the country in 2002.

"*Fork Keeps* is so witty and original in its strange imaginative way that we feel the presence of Max Ernst and Man Ray hovering behind the camera," read the International Women in Film Festival brochure.

Romanelli claims to have been most marked by the French nouvelle vague movement, which produced, among others, Jean-Luc Godard. She also loves to draw. Her movie combines the introspection of an art house movie with the magic of animation.

The production costs of the film came to \$2,500, a paltry price for a movie, but a significant sum for a student. Fortunately, Romanelli was the recipient of a scholarship in 2002, the final year of her bachelor's in film animation. The money she saved on fees she invested in the movie. Two friends agreed to play the fledgling couple.

"The inspiration for the fork-

eater came from a friend's brother who works in a psychiatric hospital," Romanelli said. "He told me about a patient who had to be operated on repeatedly because she kept eating the hospital cutlery. In the movie, the habit represents the compromise Alice is faced with when she meets Evan. Will she have to stop eating forks?"

Romanelli is applying to Concordia's master's program in film studies in the hope of teaching cinema studies one day. She also plans to continue making movies.

"Cinema allows you to reach out to people," she concluded. "It creates a forum for discussion. That's what I like about art."

# Journey back to Byzantine Greece

## Four speakers on medieval Greek era

BY LOUISE SOLOMITA

The Byzantine Empire preserved and passed on ancient Greek culture long after the Roman Empire collapsed and the medieval West forgot. In keeping with this spirit of maintaining and spreading knowledge, this term, Concordia's Hellenic Studies Unit will present a four-part lecture series on the Byzantine period.

"I searched in universities all over the world and found the four experts best suited to discuss this theme in the lecture series," said Nikos Metallinos, coordinator of Concordia's Hellenic Studies Unit and professor in the Communication Studies Department.

This will be the third annual lecture series organized by the HSU, a committee of professors, students and staff dedicated to promoting the study of Hellenic culture at Concordia. The series is made possible with the help of its major sponsor, Paul Kefalas, a member of Concordia's Board of Governors and CEO of the engineering and manufacturing firm ABB.

The first lecture will be on Jan. 31, and is entitled "Byzantium: The Guardian and Preserver of Hellenism." The speaker, Professor Antony Littlewood, teaches in the classics department at the University of Western Ontario.

Dr. Angeliki E. Laiou, a leading authority on the Byzantine era from Harvard University, will give the second lecture, "Byzantium as a Multi-Ethnic Society," on Feb. 27. Metallinos expects her presence to draw a particularly large audience.

The third lecture, scheduled for March 26, is entitled "Nikos Kazantzakis and Byzantium," and will be given by Dr. Theocharis Detorakis of the University of Crete.

The fourth and final lecture, "Byzantine Studies Curricula (Past, Present, Future)," will be on April 25, and given by Concordia's own Dr. Franziska Shlosser from the Department of History.

The Byzantine era began in the fourth century AD, when

Constantinople was founded, and ended in 1453, when it was conquered by the Ottoman Empire.

This considerable stretch of time was characterized by the Roman political system, the Christian religion, and ancient Greek culture. The crescent-shaped realm bordered the eastern portion of the Mediterranean Sea and was composed of various cultural regions such as the Balkans, Asia Minor and Egypt.

Hellenic influences from the Classical era nevertheless remained strong within the diverse empire. Greek was the official language of the imperial court, and its inhabitants studied the literature and philosophy of the Greeks. As Metallinos put it, "The Byzantine Empire became the guardian of ancient Greece."

Concordia University may promptly become a guardian of Byzantine studies as a part of Montreal's Inter-university Centre for Hellenic Studies. Starting last

year, McGill University, the Université de Montréal and Concordia will each specialize in one of the three periods of Hellenic civilization. McGill will represent the Classical Period, Concordia the Byzantine Period, and U of M the Neohellenic Period.

"My dream is for Concordia to have a chair of Byzantine Studies," said Metallinos, "and for students in Montreal who want a degree in Hellenic Studies to combine courses from all three universities."

Establishing a university chair will take considerable time and money, Metallinos explained, but he hopes that Concordia will be able to accomplish it within three or four years.

This year's lecture series on the Byzantine period is a fitting way to move Concordia toward this specialization.

As the current coordinator of Concordia's Hellenic Studies Unit, Metallinos continues to work to organize various projects that offer more to the university's Hellenic community. It is estimated that there are about 1,500 students of Greek background at Concordia.



# Rector presents action plan to Board

Continued from front page

and communication problems between Concordia security and Montreal police as one of several factors in the noisy disturbance at the Hall Building on Sept. 9. However, the report indicates that only the protesters were responsible for the violence that occurred that day.

## Risk assessments

Two risk assessments had been done by the university when the invitation became known. The first assessment, in early August, advised against allowing the event in the Hall Building, and suggested moving it to another site. The second, in mid-August, retracted that position, partly because of an assurance from CSU executive members that any demonstrations would be peaceful.

While an elaborate security plan was developed, according to the report, "it would appear that Concordia, the SPVM [Montreal police force] and RCMP underestimated the risk of violence... No one expected the level of formal organization by the protesters and the subsequent violence that occurred."

The report goes into substantial technical detail, but concludes that there were no serious injuries and minimal property damage.

However, people experienced a variety of short-term problems: respiratory problems as a result of police pepper spray, anxiety, and a good deal of pushing and being insulted by demonstrators.

The crowd, which was estimated at well over 1,000 at its peak, included violent demonstrators who breached plywood temporary barriers on the mezzanine and headed down to the lobby on the escalator. The report did not say how the protesters got into the Hall Building.

While "co-operation between

Concordia Security, the SPVM and RCMP appears to have been good in the planning phase," the report says, "their intelligence was unable to provide sufficient warning of the degree of external activist involvement in the demonstration and the potential for violence."

On one point, the report is clear: "While the Hall Building is the symbolic centre of the downtown campus and perhaps the entire university, it is almost impossible to secure unless it is completely closed. It contains research, educational and administrative operations which are critical to the university, and a wide and impressive quantity of hazardous material."

The report praises the internal coordination of Concordia services, but indicates that faculty, staff and students should have been given more information as the emergency developed.

The action plan and report are on the Web at <http://www.concordia.ca>. Please follow the links.

## Rector reflects

In his introductory comments on the report, Dr. Lowy writes, in part:

"Although there have been isolated incidents of violence that have marked Concordia's history, we are not an institution plagued by violence or one where we are accustomed to facing potentially violent situations. This is especially true in terms of our history of welcoming hundreds of controversial speakers without incident over the lifespan of both Concordia and its founding institutions."

"Based on the advice of the police authorities, the university did not expect violence on Sept. 9. As the report points out, there had been a series of 16 peaceful demonstrations on the Middle East situation in Montreal before the Netanyahu event. In fact, we were assured by some of the very same leaders of groups who later

participated in the shameful events that led to the cancellation of the speech that there would be no violence at the event.

"We understood that there was tension and a potential for confrontation around the visit of Benjamin Netanyahu and we prepared in consequence. While protest was anticipated and planned for, we did not expect a concerted, planned attempt to stop the event by any means possible, including violence and intimidation."

"As the report shows, there was serious preparation on the part of the university and coordination with various levels of police and security."

"In hindsight, we now see that some of those preparations proved insufficient in the light of the violent demonstration that ensued and the level of planning by the demonstrators that obviously took place in an effort to prevent the speech."

"Objectively, we erred on this level, and accept responsibility for effectively putting some of our students, faculty and staff in danger that day. That should not have happened and will not happen again. Thankfully there were no serious injuries and limited property damage."

"There is no doubt, however, that the onus of blame for the violence rests with those who planned it, encouraged others to participate and who took the law into their own hands. They, and nobody else, created a potentially tragic situation and risked not only their own security but also that of many innocent bystanders and guests who were trying to attend the event."

"While there may be many excuses and attempts at justifying their violent and intimidating tactics, the fact remains that there was an organized attempt to stop a peaceful assembly by resorting to violence. This cannot be condoned at a university or anywhere else."

# Concordia hosts cocktail party in Paris

BY ELAINE ARSENAULT

On December 3, Concordia, together with Clément Duhaime, Délégué général du Québec à Paris, hosted a cocktail reception at the Quebec Delegation's offices.

More than 500 invitations were mailed and the event was "sold out" within two weeks.

Over 100 alumni as well as former exchange students, MBA students studying in Paris and Quebec delegates attended. As a result of the success of the event, Corinne Abitbol-Bourguine (BA' 87) is helping to establish a France Alumni Exchange Student Chapter.

The enthusiasm and nostalgia for Concordia were palpable throughout the evening.

When Dr. Lowy mentioned that Claudette Fortier from the International Students Office sent her regards, joyful whispers of recollection ran through the crowd.

A Power Point presentation in the lobby showed the guests Concordia's plans for construction on both campuses. Dr. Lowy and Vice-Rector Marcel Danis were captive all evening with people wanting to speak to them about the past, present and

the future of Concordia.

Dean of the John Molson School of Business Jerry Tomberlin and Bill Taylor, who were interviewing candidates for the Executive MBA pro-



Former French exchange students joined over 100 alumni, current students and other delegates at a party hosted by Rector Lowy in Paris on Dec. 3, 2002. Both couples pictured above met while studying at Concordia.

gramme in Paris, joined the event.

With students from over 120 countries on our campus, the outreach to former students helps keep Concordia's name fresh and international.

These efforts have multiple goals and benefits for the University, including, but not limited to, keeping connected with our alumni, recruiting new students, and promoting the excellent programs and services at Concordia.

Dr. Lowy and Marcel Danis also took the opportunity to meet with Ian McLean from the Canadian Embassy in Paris (Ministre Plénipotentiaire, Chargé d'affaires) and Emmanuel Davidenkoff, a journalist for the newspaper *Libération* and the *France Info* radio station.

# Global carbon cycle is piece of the climate puzzle: Gélinas

Continued from front page

will be an increase in the process of CO<sub>2</sub> removal, but the increase will never be high enough to fully compensate for what is being released in the atmosphere through human activities."

For years, scientists have been predicting some surprising outcomes from global warming. One such scenario is the adjustment to which Gélinas is referring.

"Some scientists think that the greenhouse effect will result in a higher growth rate of trees and plants, not just because of the warmer weather, but also because if you increase CO<sub>2</sub> concentration, plants grow faster. That's

what you do in a greenhouse; they have increased temperatures, but also more CO<sub>2</sub>.

So we may also have more plankton growing in the ocean, and thus more exchange of greenhouse gases between the atmosphere and the ocean."

As a corollary, examining marine sediments also yields a lot of information about the past - which is one of the keys to forecasting the future. "When organic matter is buried in sediment, it also buries with it information about what happened in the past; the deeper you go in the sediment, the farther back you go in time. Examining the molecules in the sediment can tell you what

was going on when it was deposited. We can see what kind of species grew at which temperatures and climate conditions, which will tell us what kind of species will grow in the future at similar temperatures and conditions."

As his work progresses, he expects that other scientists will use his data to develop new and increasingly complete and accurate computer models forecasting global warming.

Gélinas's research is a long-term project with an indefinite time line. He expects to pursue this work for many years, and says that the recent CFI grant will be invaluable. New Opportunities

grants are awarded to new faculty members to help them acquire equipment for their research.

Gélinas is indeed new to Concordia, having joined the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry in July 2001, but not new to Montreal; he graduated from Université du Québec à Montréal, although he started his first degree at Concordia. He completed his post-doctoral research at the University of Washington, where he started working on his current research interest, and has also worked in Africa as a university professor and consultant studying the quality of drinking water in Senegal and Republic of Guinea.

"My goal was to come back to Canada first of all, and especially to Montreal; I want my daughter to learn French and English." He is attached to Concordia, having acquired his first degree here.

"I chose Concordia because I wanted to play for the Stingers; I was playing hockey at the time, and the Stingers were one of the best university hockey teams in town. I never made it, because I got injured before training camp." That leaves little doubt Gélinas is a true Quebecer who has come back home.

In addition to Gélinas, Chemistry and Biochemistry Professor Louis Cuccia also received a CFI grant this month.



# Wilkommen! Hockey Stingers treated like kings in Germany

BY JOHN AUSTEN

When Kevin Figsby took over the men's hockey team at Concordia three years ago, he vowed to restore pride and tradition to the program. Getting the alumni more involved and instituting a Wall of Fame to honour past greats of Loyola, Sir George and Concordia hockey squads was just part of what he had in mind — and then there were the trips to Europe!

"Concordia used to have a tradition of sending teams overseas for a couple of weeks but it had stopped," Figsby said. "When we took over we asked the players what they wanted to do, and almost all of them said they wanted to go to Europe."

Figsby is a man of his word. On Dec. 29, the Concordia Stingers travelled to Germany for 10 days of bonding, culture and — oh, yes — hockey.

The entourage of 31 people were treated like royalty from the moment they stepped off the plane in Frankfurt.

"We kept looking at each other, wondering how things could get any more perfect for us," Figsby said.

"Every day just got better and better. After one game, it took us three hours to leave the arena because the fans crammed our dressing room wanting our autographs. It was as if the Stones had arrived in town."

The Stingers played four games and held two practices during their 10-day stay. They played to sellout crowds across the country and were hounded for autographs at the rink, on the street and in the hotel. Chants of CANADA! CANADA! cascaded down on them in every arena they played in.

"This is my seventh such trip to Europe, but my first time in Germany," said Figsby. "It was a fantastic experience. Our players were great ambassadors for both their school and their country. I didn't hear a negative word from



The Stingers' Phil Paris (15) battles at the RMC Paladins net in a game against the team from Royal Military College last Friday night at the Concordia hockey rink.

anyone throughout the trip."

The Stingers knew they were in for something special when more than 200 people showed up just to watch their opening practice in Darmstadt, a town outside of Frankfurt. A day later, Concordia played its first game against the Darmstadt Stars and whipped their hosts 12-3 before a sellout crowd of 1,500 people.

Then it was on to Herford, where they played to another sellout crowd of 2,000 on New Year's Eve day. They lost this game 10-8, but no one seemed to mind. Later that night, it was on to a rented hall where their hosts held New Year's Eve celebrations.

"In Germany, it's a custom at midnight for families to go outside and light fireworks" said Figsby, "so here we were, a group of Canadian hockey players watching the fireworks and singing O Canada at the top of our lungs. It was a moment we'll never forget."

Figsby says an incident in Herford summed up the trip. "I was by myself in the shopping district of Herford which is much like Old Montreal without the cars," he recalled. "It's pouring rain and I'm sopping wet."

"Suddenly I hear this little voice

from across the street saying 'Coach from Canada! Coach from Canada!' It's a little German lady, and she's waving her arms at me. 'Come with me. I've called my father and he will come pick you up and take you back to your hotel.'

"Sure enough, this stretch Mercedes pulls up and in we get. Turns out he's a high court judge who had taken his family to our game the night before. He had brought a big Canadian flag with him to the game to make us feel welcome. This type of thing just doesn't happen every day."

The Stingers also played games in Halle (a 4-4 tie in front of 5,000 fans) and Baden Baden (an 8-2 win).

The players and coaches visited museums, Martin Luther University, a chocolate factory, and the church where Handel first learned to play the piano.

The trip cost a total of \$50,000. Each player contributed \$500 to the cause, while the rest was raised through fundraising and donations.

"It's a lot of work to plan a trip like this," Figsby said. "All the memories make it worth it, though. It will be hard to top that trip."

## Stingers roundup

BY JOHN AUSTEN

### Heartbreaker final for women's hockey squad

The Concordia Stingers women's hockey team made the final of the 35th annual Theresa Humes Women's Hockey Tournament, but fell short losing 5-4 to the Quebec Under-18 squad. The game was played before more than 500 boisterous fans at the Ed Meagher Arena.

The see-saw battle had Quebec out in front 5-3 with a minute left when Concordia coach Les Lawton pulled goalie Jessica Anderson for an extra attacker. The Stingers pulled to within one when Anouk Grignon l'Anglais scored with 24 seconds left but, alas, it was too little too late.

Grignon l'Anglais collected two goals and an assist for Concordia. Catherine De Abreu and M.C. Allard were the other goal scorers.

The Under-18 squad will represent Quebec at the Canada Winter Games in Bathurst, N.B., in March. The Cornell Big Red finished the tournament in third place. They beat the Middlebury Panthers 3-2 in an exciting contest that was decided by a shootout. It took six shooters on each side to break the lock.

The No. 3-ranked Toronto Varsity Blues won the consolation final, defeating the CEGEP Limoilou Titans 1-0. In the seventh-place game, the UQTR Patriotes defeated the No. 10-ranked Ottawa Gee-Gees 2-0.

The tournament MVPs were: forward Sarah Vaillancourt, Quebec U18; defender Sue Kaye, Concordia; and goaltender Marie-Andrée Joncas, UQTR.

### Men's team splits

The men's hockey team ran into a hot goaltender as they lost their first league game since arriving back from Germany, a 3-2 decision to RMC of Kingston, Ont. (see photo). The Stingers outshot their opponents 42-21 in the game played last Friday.

After shaking off the rust the Stingers rebounded with an impressive 7-4 win over Queen's last Saturday at the Ed Meagher Arena. Luc Messier and Mathieu Lendick scored twice for the winners, while Patrice Roy, Chris Page and Derek Legault added singles.

The Stingers are in last place in the four-team division and need to climb as high as third to make the playoffs.

"Eight of our last 10 games are against teams in our division," said coach Kevin Figsby. "This is the toughest division in Canadian university hockey. There are no weak teams."

### Wrestlers strong

Concordia wrestlers had something to brag about at the Queen's Invitational Tournament held last week in Kingston, Ont. Martine Dugrenier took first place honours in the 70-kilogram class, while Jason Chen was tops at 72 kg. Tyler Margentis and Tony Ronci finished second in the 72 and 68 kg. classes respectively.

### Male hoopsters win

The Concordia men's basketball team finally broke the ice by winning its first game of the season, a narrow 68-67 win over Bishop's in Lennoxville. Meanwhile the ladies weren't so lucky, losing 71-53 to the Lady Gaiters. The men have a 1-3 record, while the women are 2-2.

## Filmmaker Cross goes north to give voice to Inuit teens

Continued from page 3

month, and Cross says he can already see the students "becoming a little more extroverted with their thoughts."

"They know the camera is an opportunity for them," he said. "One of the guys is really interested in his grandfather, who's a polar-bear hunter — and that's

great status in an Inuit community. He asked, 'Does this mean I can ask my grandfather some questions?' because he'd never engaged with his grandfather in that way before. It's pretty simple, yet pretty huge at the same time."

Cross plans to work with the teens until the fall, when most of them plan to leave their community to enter CEGEP in

Montreal.

He is also developing a feature film about urban skateboarders, building an online archive of video testimonials by homeless people from across Canada (<http://www.homelessarchive.org>), and helping Aung-Thwin make his directorial debut with a documentary about Montreal's metro buskers.

Diverse as these subjects may seem on the surface, Cross locates a strong unifying undercurrent in all his work.

"There's a real social relevance to engagement, to not just hanging out and being lost and confused."

"The whole point for me is to use the same equipment that corporate media, for lack of a better

term, uses all the time to present a very small percentage of the population's voice.

"You can use the camera as a way, for example, to ask a question to your grandpa about polar-bear hunting; it's a tool of empowerment."

"I'm hoping to take that same equipment and give other people voice."



# the backpage

January 16-30

Events, notices and classified ads must reach the Public Relations Department (BC-115) in writing no later than 5 p.m. on Thursday, the week prior to the Thursday publication. Back Page submissions are also accepted by fax (848-2814) and e-mail (ctr@alcor.concordia.ca). For more information, please contact Melanie Takefman at 848-4579.

## Applied Psychology Centre

The Applied Psychology Centre in the Department of Psychology offers confidential psychotherapy and assessment for adults, couples, families, children and teenagers. By appointment only: 848-7550.

## Art

### Leonard & Bina Ellen Art Gallery

Monday to Friday 11 a.m.-7 p.m.; Saturday 1-5 p.m.; closed Sundays. 1400 de Maisonneuve W. Free admission. Info: 848-4750 or <http://www.ellengallery.com>.

#### • Tim Zuck, *Learning to Talk: 20 Years*

A touring retrospective exhibition circulated by Museum London, featuring the paintings of Canadian contemporary artist Tim Zuck. Exhibition on until March 1, 2003. Guided tours of the exhibit and workshops will be offered from January 17-March 1. Contact Piera Palucci at 848-4047 or [ppalucci@alcor.concordia.ca](mailto:ppalucci@alcor.concordia.ca) for group reservations.

#### • Selections from the Permanent Collection

A small exhibition of contemporary photography drawn from the Gallery's art collection, including works by Angela Grauerholz, Roberto Pellegriuzzi and Denis Farley. Exhibition on until March 1, 2003.

Walk-in tours of the Gallery are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 12-2 p.m. until February 27.

See the Lectures and Workshops sections of the Back Page for information on other events at the Ellen Art Gallery.

## Centre for Teaching and Learning Services

To register for CTLS workshops, please contact 848-2495, [ctls@alcor.concordia.ca](mailto:ctls@alcor.concordia.ca), or register on our Web site at <http://www.concordia.ca/ctls/workshop>.

### Faculty Development Workshop Series

#### Writing a Letter of Recommendation

This workshop explores the strategies of writing effective letters for students: who should write and when, what to say and how to discuss letters with students. Monday, January 27, 1-2:30 p.m. H-771. The workshop will be led by Robert Tittler of the History Department.

#### Research Databases, e-Journals and Electronic Current Awareness Services

The session will provide an overview of research databases and electronic journals available from the Libraries as well as how to access and search them. Thursday, February 13, 2-4 p.m. The workshop will be led by Jennifer Eisman of the Library. Enrolment is limited to 20.

## Concerts

Oscar Peterson Concert Hall, 7141 Sherbrooke W. Box office: Monday to Friday, 9:30 am-noon, 1:30-4:30 pm. Tel. 848-4848. For more listings, visit <http://oscar.concordia.ca>.

Presenting Concordia's Eclectic Faculty Series throughout the month of January. Check

future editions of the *Thursday Report* for different themes in coming months.

### January 17

Jazz ensemble Inside/Out will present original works. Featuring Gary Schwartz and Michel Héroux on guitar, Zack Lober on bass and Thom Gossage on drums. 8 p.m. Tickets available at the box office: \$11 general admission, \$6 for seniors and students with ID.

### January 24

Harmonious Combustion performs in an exciting evening of original music, improvisation, and communication. Harmonious Combustion is Tena Palmer (vocalist now based in the Netherlands), Kevin Turcotte (trumpet from Toronto), and Roddy Elias (ten-string guitar). 8 p.m. Tickets available at the box office: \$12 general admission, \$10 for Concordia staff, \$6 for non-Concordia students and seniors, free for Concordia students.

### January 25

Syrian Cultural Play, sponsored by the Syrian Student Association, is a traditional Syrian comedy reflecting daily life. 7 p.m. For more information, contact Mohamed Idlbi by telephone at (514) 983-3536 or (514) 848-7442, or electronically at <http://www.syrianstudents.com> or [info@syrianstudents.com](mailto:info@syrianstudents.com).

### January 26

Montreal Youth Choir presents a concert of Romantic German music directed by Bruno Dufresne. Works by Brahms, Schubert and Mendelssohn. 2 p.m. Tickets at the door only; please call (514) 349-2073 for more information.

### January 30

A Celebration of Langston Hughes. One of Canada's finest African American vocal artists, Jeri Brown, soprano, will be joined by friends Hélène Gagné, John Winiarz, Charles Ellison, Robin Chemtov, Wali Muhammad, Jeri Brown Con Chords, and other special guests, in a program that presents an overview of American poet Langston Hughes. 8 p.m. Tickets available at the box office: \$16 general admission, \$11 for Concordia staff, \$6 non-Concordia students and seniors, free for Concordia students.

### January 31

Craig Morrison & The Momentz perform at the 6th Annual Roots of Rock & Roll Concert with the Lew Dite Skiffle Group, Blind, Slim Sandy, Bob Fuller & the Wandering Hillbillies, Jitterbug Swing, and the Ronnie Hayward Trio. 8 p.m. Tickets available at the box office: \$9 general admission, \$6 for seniors, \$4 for students with ID.

## Counselling and Development

SGW: H-440, 848-3545; Loyola: 2490 W. Broadway, 848-3555.

### Student Success Centre

Drop by H-481 and speak to us about any of the personal, academic or career concerns you may be experiencing. We can point you in the right direction.

## Employee Assistance Program

The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is a voluntary, confidential counselling and information service available to all employees eligible for health benefits at Concordia, including their immediate family, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Log onto the EAP Web Page at <http://eap.concordia.ca> for helpful information about counselling services, lunch seminars, newsletters and a lot more! 1-800-387-4765 (Eng.) 1-800-361-5676 (Fr.)

### EAP Lunch Seminar

**Time Management: Controlling the Workload.** January 28, 12-1:15 p.m., Hall Building, H-769. Learn new ideas and techniques on how to truly master your time. No charge. To register, contact Nina Peritz by e-mail ([peritz@alcor.concordia.ca](mailto:peritz@alcor.concordia.ca)), by phone at 848-3667 or register on-line on the EAP Web site.

## Lectures

### January 17

Dr. Maxine Ruvinsky (University College of the Cariboo, B.C.) on "Computer Assisted Reporting Investigative Journalism and the Emperor's Newest Clothes." Room CC-111, Loyola at 10:30 a.m.

Laura U. Marks (American University of Beirut, Center for Behavioral Research) on "Infinity, Enfoldment, and Artificial Life: The Islamic Roots of New Media Art." Visual Arts Building, Room 245, 1390 René-Levesque W., 245 at 4:30 p.m.

### January 23

Dr. Richard Purdy (Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières) on "The Poisoning of Reality." Visual Arts Building, Room 245, 1390 René-Levesque W., 245 at 5:15 p.m.

### January 30

Erin Manning (McGill University) "Erring Toward the Other: Violence and Touch." Visual Arts Building, Room 245, 1390 René-Levesque W., 245 at 4:00 p.m.

### Thursday, January 30

Painting and Photography: Contemporary Image-Making. Guest speakers will discuss the relationship between painting and photography in contemporary art practice. Ellen Art Gallery, 4-5:30 p.m.

## Legal Information

Concordia's Legal Information Services offers free and confidential legal information and assistance to the Concordia community. By appointment: 848-4960.

## Meetings & Events

**The Art Matters Blender acceptance party** Find out who is accepted to this year's Art Matters student fine arts festival and pick up acceptance packages. January 16th 8 p.m. at The Hive, Loyola. Live Music by Arcade Fire. Free.

### Monologue performance

**Postponed to January 17**—Accessorizing Death: A Monologue for Two Voices, Acts I and II. 7:30 p.m. at Cazalet Studio (an unmarked door on the west side of the FC Smith

Auditorium/Chapel), 7141 Sherbrooke St. W. Presented by Taffeta Productions and the Image and Identity Research Collective. For ticket information, call 848-2025 or e-mail [weber@vax2.concordia.ca](mailto:weber@vax2.concordia.ca).

## Multi-Faith Chaplaincy

Loyola: AD-130, 7141 Sherbrooke St. W., 848-3588; SGW: Annex Z, rooms 102-106, 2090 Mackay, 848-3593. <http://advocacy.concordia.ca/ministry/>

## Notices

### OCD & depression research

The Psychology Department at Concordia University needs people for studies of Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD). If you have unwanted, intrusive thoughts that cause anxiety, or repeat things (counting, checking, washing etc.) to reduce your anxiety, please call (514) 848-2199. Participants will receive treatment information and compensation. All information obtained will be kept strictly confidential and no identifying information will be released.

Support group meets the first Thursday of each month. Call 848-2199 for more information.

### Tourette syndrome study

A research group at the Centre de recherche Fernand-Séguin and is now recruiting people suffering from Gilles de la Tourette syndrome for a research project aimed at improving behavioural approach to treating all types of tics and habit disorders. France Quevillon, project co-ordinator, 251-4015 ext 3585.

### Volunteers wanted

The Office of Students with Disabilities is looking for volunteers interested in devoting a few hours per week to assist students with reading (recording material onto cassette) or tutoring (subject or writing). Please contact Mariève Duffy at 848-3525 or [sdsvol@alcor.concordia.ca](mailto:sdsvol@alcor.concordia.ca).

## Office of Rights & Responsibilities

The Office of Rights and Responsibilities is available to all members of the university community for confidential consultations regarding any type of unacceptable behaviour, including discrimination and personal/sexual harassment, threatening and violent conduct, theft, destruction of property. 848-4857, or drop by GM-1120.

## Ombuds Office

The Ombuds Office is available to all members of the university for information, confidential advice and assistance with university-related problems. Call 848-4964, or drop by GM-1120.

## Peer Support Centre

Feeling overloaded with work? Come talk to a fellow student who can relate, at the Peer Support Centre. This drop-in and referral centre is located in the basement of 2090 Mackay. You can also reach the office by phone at 848-2859.

## Unclassified

### Weekday sublet

Furnished, fully equipped apartment in St. Henri to sublet during week only (Sunday night through Friday inclusive), \$400/month. Ideal for grad student or instructor on semester contract who returns home on weekends. Call 937-9047 (weekends) or e-mail [broberts@westlib.org](mailto:broberts@westlib.org).

### Parking near Loyola

Unheated garage, \$50 monthly. Contact Carol 481-9461.

### Help needed with research project

Sex trade advocacy and research project. Concordia's Star Team is currently looking for transcribers. Applicants must: type at speed of 60 words per minute, be bilingual. 15 hours per week. Contact Jenn or Christine at (514) 848-2139.

### Printer repairs needed

My fourteen-year-old Roland DG PR-1012 printer is broken- "printer not accepting characters." I am looking for someone who can fix it or for a second-hand replacement. Contact V. Nixon at 848-3567 or 848-2582.

### Exchange conversations French / English

I'm a Frenchman, 35 years old. I've been working in Montreal for the past 4 years & I want to improve my English. If you want to work on your French (writing also, I've got a bachelor's degree in Business Administration), we could meet downtown once or twice a week.

### Tutor and research

Offering tutoring and research in the social sciences. Recent MA from Concordia. Contact Pat at 937-1733.

### Editing services

Do you need to publish? Does your thesis or dissertation need editing? Specializing in chemical and biological sciences, I offer editing services at reasonable rates. David at [d.mclauchlan@videotron.ca](mailto:d.mclauchlan@videotron.ca).

### Tutor, editor and translator

Offering editing and tutoring in English and French to English translation; experienced and specialized in working with students from different cultural backgrounds. Call 989-1838 or 816-9915.

### Tutor and research help

Concordia graduate with a registered company offers tutoring in all science subjects, including some 400 level chemistry, biology and some math and physics. Help is also available for various non-science courses in economics, translation and modern languages. Reasonable prices and bilingual service. Call anytime at (514) 408-0247 (pager).

### Help with INTE 290 class

Do you need help with WORD, EXCEL, ACCESS or POWERPOINT? Expert help is available. Get help now so that your good grade will be assured. (514) 842-2270.

### Volleyball for non-competitive singles

At LCC, Tuesdays, 8 pm. Fee: \$95 for the year. Call 694-3045 to sign up.

### Used ski equipment for sale

Women's Salomon downhill ski boots, size 8, \$40. Scott Poles for adult, \$15. Negotiable. [mel@evemag.com](mailto:mel@evemag.com)

### Scuba gear for sale

All items only used a couple of times in a pool. All in EXCELLENT condition. Nika Mask, Flex Purge Snorkel, Aquaflex XL Fins (Yellow), DR Boots (size 11, male), Weight Belt. I paid \$380 for all this gear. I will not refuse any reasonable offers. Please send an e-mail Craig at [chai@ca.inter.net](mailto:chai@ca.inter.net)

### Musicians wanted

Drummer with studio space looking for musicians. I'd like to form a cover band for weddings and parties. Looking for various musicians and singer. Please send an e-mail Craig, at [chai@ca.inter.net](mailto:chai@ca.inter.net).

### Printing Services

Need business cards, flyers or any other of that sort of range? Universo Creations has many to offers miscellaneous printing projects at affordable rates. Call Mary at 514-835-1554 or check out our Web site at <http://communities.msn.com/universocreations>.

### Financial help

Debt management, investment portfolios, tax control. J.L. Freed, MBA. (514) 483-5130.

### La Brise for breakfast

La Brise, 7345 Sherbrooke St. W., near the Loyola Campus, is now open for breakfast as well as lunch and dinner, Monday to Friday from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., and on weekends from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

## Workshops

### Library Workshops

Workshops at Vanier Library (Loyola) are in room VL-122, workshops at Webster Library (SGW) are in room LB-203. Sign up in person at the Reference Desk, by phone (Vanier 848-7766; Webster: 848-7777) or from our website (connect to <http://library.concordia.ca> and click on Help & Instruction).

**Finding Articles Webster Library:** Jan. 22, 1 p.m., Jan. 28, 6 p.m.

**Intro to the Libraries & Finding Articles:** Webster Library: Jan. 18, 10:30 a.m., Jan. 29, 10 a.m. (2 hours).

### Current Affairs and Business Sources on

Lexis-Nexis  
Webster Library: Jan. 23, 1 p.m.

### Pinhole Photography Workshop

Saturday, Feb. 8th, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Join photographer Chris Knudsen in a day long pinhole workshop in the Ellen Art Gallery, 1400, de Maisonneuve W. There is a \$10.00 charge for this workshop which will be put towards the cost of materials. To reserve, call 848-4047, or email us at [ppalucci@alcor.concordia.ca](mailto:ppalucci@alcor.concordia.ca) before Jan. 25, 2003. Maximum of 10 participants.

## Inter-University Seminar on the History and Philosophy of Science Relativity and the "Now"

### Wednesday, Jan. 22

William Byers, Concordia University

"The Ambiguity of Mathematics"

Henry F. Hall Building, Room 431 at 4:15 p.m.

Professor Byers teaches in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, and is Principal of Lonergan College. He has a PhD from University of California (Berkeley), 1969, and his research interests lie in dynamical systems and the philosophy of mathematics.

### Upcoming Seminars

**Tuesday, Feb. 4:** Andrew Wayne (Concordia University) - TBA